Small Scale Industries Corporation has played any part in giving incentive to the Small Scale Industries in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the type of industries revived or newly set up by small scale entrepreneurs in the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) provide assistance for development, promotion and strengthening of all types of small scale industries on all-India basis including Rajasthan through financial, marketing and technology upgradation schemes being operated by them. The specific programmes of SIDBI for Rajasthan consist of assistance under Micro Credit Scheme; Rural Industries Programme; Mahila Vikas Nidhi; Cluster Development Programme; Technology Upgradation Programme; Small Industries Management Programme; Entrepreneurship Development Programme; Awareness Programme etc. The NSIC's support programme for Rajasthan consists of raw material assistance, bill discounting, tender marketing, hire purchase, composite term loan and Government Purchase Registration.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

ISRO's centre in Tamil Nadu

2489. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has set up its centre at Kavalkinar in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu; if so, the details of the research work conducted so far, in the centre;

(b) whether the research work is going on smoothly, without any hurdles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether sufficient number of scientists and facilities have been provided in the centre for carrying out research activities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre facilities at Mahendragiri (near Kavalkinar) cater to assembly and testing of liquid propulsion systems for ISRO launch vehicles.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The facilities at Liquid Propulsion System Centre, Mahendragiri cater to Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Projects. It will also meet requirements for GSLV-Mark-III approved recently.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Centre has been provided with 180 Scientists/ Engineers, besides 170 support staff under scientific & technical category. Necessary infrastructure such as, assembly, integration, instrumentation and testing facilities as well as logistic support including housing have been provided in the Centre.

Launch of 'GRAMSAT'

2490. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to develop and launch a satellite 'GRAMSAT' to facilitate village level soil profiling, crop study, water level monitoring etc.;

(b) if so, the likely date of developing and launching thereof; and

(c) the cost projections and other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) A concept of GRAMSAT satellite is under consideration. The time-frame, configuration and other details are being studied. The proposed "GRAMSAT" Programme will have satellite-based communication network for developmental communication and training. Village level soil profiling, crop study, water level monitoring etc., are done utilising the IRS series of satellites.